

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 961

By Terry

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Nick McDevitt on being selected the Conference USA Gene Bartow Coach of the Year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pay tribute to those excellent coaches who have led their players to success in athletic competition and in the game of life; and

WHEREAS, since taking charge of the Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU) men's basketball team on March 24, 2018, Nick McDevitt has established himself as the heart and soul of the Blue Raiders and returned the program to its rightful place as a consistent winner with very high post-season aspirations; and

WHEREAS, Nick McDevitt was recently named the 2021-2022 Conference USA (C-USA) Gene Bartow Coach of the Year in men's basketball in recognition of his coaching prowess and his transformation of the Blue Raiders this season; and

WHEREAS, after struggling during the previous three campaigns, Coach McDevitt and the Blue Raiders caught fire in 2021-2022, finishing the regular season with a 22-9 overall record, a 13-5 mark in conference play, the C-USA East Division title, and a number-one seed in the C-USA Tournament; and

WHEREAS, prior to arriving at MTSU, Nick McDevitt served a five-year stint at his alma mater as the head coach of UNC-Asheville (University of North Carolina Asheville) men's basketball team; he led the Bulldogs to three consecutive twenty-win campaigns and three consecutive postseason appearances while garnering several coaching honors; and

WHEREAS, Coach McDevitt earned his bachelor's degree in history from UNC-Asheville, where he made the Dean's List on several occasions; as a Bulldog basketball player

and student athlete, he was twice named to the Big South Conference All-Academic team and was a three-time member of the Big South Presidential Honor Roll; and

WHEREAS, he is most grateful for the love and companionship he shares with his wife, Lauren, and their children, Cooper and Kathryn; and

WHEREAS, Nick McDevitt has distinguished himself as a great basketball coach, tactician, and motivator of young men, and he should be appropriately recognized on this special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate Nick McDevitt on being selected the Conference USA Gene Bartow Coach of the Year in men's basketball and extend to him our best wishes for continued success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.